

May 2, 2011

Meeting minutes – ACA BAR-BAT overhaul committee

In attendance: Peter Dunlap, Kevin Loftus, Dave Mitchell, Henrik Pedesen, Dean Haas, Kathy Judson, John Noonan

ACA Staff: Yvonne van Gent, Bruce Whitesel, Chris McGee

positives of BAR-BAT

- consistency is rewarded
- still going strong (women's races)
- competition is helped. More encouragement to racing
- its a season long competition that motivates
- promoters get a boost for BAR-BAT races
- liked by the members of ACA
- different competition in addition to the races
- well attended races when BAR-BAT
- BAR-BAT makes a good measuring stick for year to year comparison
- smaller buckets for sorting
- disconnect the race categories from the BAR-BAT categories

negatives of BAR-BAT

- sandbaggers (need an overhaul of upgrade system?)
- too many categories (35 + 3, etc.)
- could be more encouraging to the older masters groups
- gaps too large at older age (45 to 55 is a big age jump)
- since ACA charter is grassroots, cat-4 needs incentive to upgrade
- pros and cat-1 detract from cat-2 in BAR-BAT. Pros and cat-1s need a different incentive
- women's field doesn't upgrade
- different age categories (40 for masters)
- different point system for BAR-BAT (tiered?)
- age ranges are too large
- too many categories leads to small fields
- well known events as BAR-BAT vs. up and coming events as BAR-BAT
- no minimum field size (only need 1 rider) needed to qualify for BAR-BAT

motivations of stakeholders (racers, promoters, officials, ACA staff)

- how do the older categories view BAR-BAT? Is it a motivator to bring them to the races?
- Need a minimum number of riders per category to qualify for a BAR-BAT category
- possibly a women's cat-3 category (instead of women's 1-2-3 group)
- membership and race day surcharges provide nearly 100% of ACA income
- BAR-BAT is good for those that are at the top of their category
- some larger teams have their own internal categories and competitions within the club
- leverage timing system for finer granularity and greater breadth of BAR-BAT categories
- ACA is serving a population of racers that is different than 10-15 years ago
- BAR-BAT impact on officials is negligible compared to non BAR-BAT
- spread out the BAR-BAT races and make them less promoter driven
- don't have to be *all* BAR-BAT categories at every race.

Goals of committee

- a clear vision of what BAR-BAT needs to be
- real data/info about how other racers view BAR-BAT as a motivator
- more interesting competitions within BAR-BAT
- **a tiered/weighted idea with BAR-BAT races**

Next meeting in early June